

List of Philippine mythological creatures

A host of mythological creatures occur in the mythologies from the Philippines. Philippine mythological creatures are the mythological beasts, monsters, and enchanted beings of more than 140 ethnic groups in the Philippines. Each ethnic people has their own unique set of belief systems, which includes the belief in various mythological creatures. The list does not include figures such as gods, goddesses, deities, and heroes; for these, see List of Philippine mythological figures.

Contents

General terms

Creatures of the soil

Creatures of the water

Creatures of the air

See also

References

General terms

Some mythological creatures, aside from their specific name, are also referred through a generic term which encompasses other similar mythological creatures. Some of these terms include:

- Aswang: bracket term for shape-shifting creatures that have a variety of forms, such as the blood-sucking vampire, the self-segmenting viscera sucker, the man-eating weredog, the vindictive or evil-eye witch, and the carrion-eating ghoul^[1]
- Duwende: bracket term for small magical beings of the land^[2]
- Engkanto: bracket term for highly-attractive enchanted human-like environmental beings, usually exuding the scent of flowers and having no philtrum^[3]
- Higante: bracket term for giant humanoid land creatures^[4]
- Sirena: bracket term for water creatures with a humanoid upper body and the body of a fish from waist down similar to merfolks^[5]

Most creatures originating from Philippine mythology, however, are not under any specific bracket term.

Creatures of the soil

- Agta
- Alan
- Amalanhig
- Amomongo
- Anggitay

- Bal-Bal
- Batibat
- Berbalang
- Bungisngis: one-eyed giant, purported to dwell in Meluz, Orion, Bataan, and Cebu; described as always laughing.^[6]
- Busaw
- Dalakethnon
- Diwata: (from Sanskrit *devata*, "gods"), *engkantada* (from Spanish *encantada*, "enchantress, charmed") or *engkanto* (from Spanish **encanto**, "spell, incantation, charm") are gods and goddesses below the supreme deity or deities; some are similar to *dryads* who guard natural creations such as forests, seas, mountains, land and air;^[7] fair-skinned, good-looking and, sometimes, blonde-haired.^[8] reside in large trees, such as *acacia* and *balete*, and tend to be resentful of humanity's intrusion into their realm^[9]
- Dwende: goblins, hobgoblins, elves or dwarfs (*Spanish: duende* " little creatures who provide good fortune or foretell an ominous fate to people. goblin, elf, charm" < "duen de (casa)", owner of the house); there are two types of Dwende the white and black, white Dwende represent as good motive and the black is a bad,^[10]
- Kapre: muscular tree giants described as being a tall (7 to 9 ft), big, black, terrifying, and hairy^[11]
- Mambabarang: witches who utilize insects to do their bidding^[12]
- Mangkukulam: *bruha* (from Spanish: *bruja*, "witch") are witches, wizards, *bruho* (Spanish: *brujo*, "wizard, male witch"), or sorcerers who cast evil spells to humans; also called *manggagaway*^[13]
- Multo
- Nuno sa punso: (literally, goblin of the mound) goblins or elves who live within mysterious lumps of soil (ant hills); provide a person who steps on their shelter with good luck or misfortune^[14]
- Pugot
- Santelmo
- Sarangay
- Sigbin
- Tikbalang: lurk in the mountains and forests; tall, bony humanoid creature with the head and hooves of a horse and disproportionately long limbs, to the point that its knees reach above its head when it squats down^[15]
- Tiyanak

Creatures of the water

- Berberoka
- Kataw
- Sirena: sea creature with a human upper body and a fish tail instead of lower extremities^[16]
- Siyokoy

Creatures of the air

- Bakunawa
- Garuda

- Manananggal: derived from the word, tanggal, which means "to separate" because of their ability to separate from their lower body part^[17]
- Manaul
- Minokawa
- Sarimanok: papanok in its feminine form, is a legendary multi-colored bird or chicken^[18]
- Tigmamanukan
- Wakwak

See also

- List of Philippine mythological figures
- Ghosts in Filipino culture
- Philippine mythology

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